

NUMISMATIC

ISSN 0027-6006 \$5.00

ASSOCIATION OF

SOUTHERN

CALIFORNIA



The N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

1998 / NUMBER 1

Calendar of Events

Coin & Collectible Shows

May 10 Santa Maria	Santa Maria Coin Club Show Mussell Senior Center 510 E. Park St.
-----------------------	---

May 17 El Cajon	Heartland Coin Club Show 695 ballantyne
--------------------	---

June 3 - 7 Long Beach	L B Coin and Collectible Expo Convention Center 100 S. Pine Ave.
--------------------------	---

July 11 & 12 San Diego	COINARAMA Scotish Rite Center Mission Valley
---------------------------	---

September 5 - 6 Pasadena	Golden State Coin Show Pasadena Center
-----------------------------	--

Due Dates for Quarterly: **March 1st, July 1st & November 1st**

1998 NASC Board Meetings

May 31	August 30	November 29
--------	-----------	-------------

All meetings start at 1:00 p.m. and are held at:

Veterans Memorial Center
4117 Overland Ave. (Culver & Overland)
Culver City, CA

Visit the NASC Web site at:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~beedon/nasc.htm>

THE N.A.S.C. QUARTERLY

Official Publication of the Numismatic Association of Southern California
1998 / Volume 40 / Number 1

Articles and Features

- 3 **Resplandores: Cap and Ray 8 Reales
of the Republic of Mexico 1823-1897**

Reviewed by Michael E. Ontko

- 13 **1799 Cent**

Martha Stevenson, NLG

- 31 **Jefferson Nickels: A Lost Series**

Bill Cregan

NASC Departments

- 2 **President's Message**, G. Lee Kuntz

- 8 **Fourth Hobby Improvement Seminar**, Walt Ostromecki

- 15 **NASC Installation & Awards Banquet**, Mary Beedon

- 28 **Club Report**, Harold Katzman

- 37 **NASC Club Directory**

Staff

Editor, Gary Beedon, NLG

Advertising and Publisher, Jerry Yahalom, NLG

Circulation and Associate Editor, Harold Katzman

Associate Editor, Dr. Walter Ostromecki, NLG

All contributions for publication should be directed to :

Gary Beedon, Editor / Box 2335 / Huntington Beach, CA 92647

<http://home.earthlink.net/~beedon/numiscat.htm>

Issued 3x/year - Distributed to all members of NASC. Annual subscription for non-members is \$15.00. Single copy price is \$5.00. Published by The Numismatic Association of Southern California / P.O. Box 3382 / Tustin, CA 92681-3382. Second class postage paid. Additional entry authorized.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To all members of the Numismatic Association of Southern California, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your confidence in me, by electing me your new President. My Officers and Board represent an outstanding TEAM of



Southern California numismatists who will strengthen and lead us into the 21st Century. We are FACING NEW HORIZONS.

As this *Quarterly* is published, I will begin my term as the 38th President. My resolution for the next 24 months is to continue my focus on what is best for NASC, its members and our hobby. To this end we need to promote our many programs, as well as listen to and explore new ideas and techniques to help numismatics prosper.

I will visit as many member clubs as I can fit into my schedule. Club presidents, please appoint an NASC club representative and have him/her attend our board meetings. The Board meets on the 5th Sunday of all months having a 5th Sunday. Our 1998 meetings will be at the Veterans Memorial Building, located at the corner of Overland Avenue and Culver Boulevard in Culver City at 1:00 p.m. A map of this location is in this *Quarterly*. Your club representative can then report back to its members, how NASC functions and coordinate its participation on a meaningful scale. One way we (and you) can grow is to have your club representative attend NASC's Board meetings, discuss any of your clubs problems and have an open discussions. What can NASC do to help your club thrive and be successful?

For those of you who missed our installation dinner on Feb. 1st, the evening, food, and camaraderie was outstanding and will be

in our memories for years to come. Everyone left the banquet with a door prize. Two lucky ladies each went home with a DOS peso coin. Ruthann Brettell, ANA's Director of Conventions, was commendable as the installer of NASC's new officers. We appreciate and thank her for traveling all the way from Colorado Springs.

G. Lee Kuntz



A review by Michael E. Ontko

Resplandores: Cap and Rays 8 Reales of the Republic of Mexico 1823-1897

by Mike Dunigan and J. B. Parker

(Beverly Hills, CA: Superior Stamp & Coin, 1997. 460 pp., illus., \$125.)

In September 1810, in the tiny village of Dolores, Guanajuato, liberal priest Miguel Hidalgo stood up in front of his flock of mixed blood and Indian peasants and issued the call since known as the *Grito de Dolores*: "Will you not defend your religion and your rights as true patriots? Long live our Lady of Guadeloupe! Death to bad government! Death to the Spaniards!" Eleven years and untold millions of lives later, Mexico was independent of Spanish domination. After a brief fling with Iturbide's empire, the leaders of Mexico established a republic dedicated to the systematic deprivation of land and freedom for the millions of peasants who had fought and died for it.

When the time came to design coins for the new government, they wished to show a complete break with the monarchical symbols of the past. Following the precedent of United States coinage, the traditional portrait of the ruler was dropped and the cap and rays, symbolic of liberty and the dawn of a new era, adopted for the silver *ocho reales*, or peso. On the reverse (actually the obverse, according to a universally ignored Mexican law), Iturbide's eagle, perched on a cactus and grasping a snake, was retained but the imperial crown removed from his head. For

seventy five years, from fourteen mints, cap and rays *ocho reales* gushed forth in quantities that would eventually total hundreds of millions. Although nominally unchanged in design throughout that period, the coins were issued in a seemingly infinite variety of dates, overdates, mintmarks, mintmaster's initials and hub varieties, to the everlasting pleasure of numismatists. While the specialist in Mexican numismatics may pursue arcane varieties of hacienda tokens or counterfeit Revolutionary *cartones*, the centerpiece of her collection will always be a selection of cap and ray *ocho reales*.

For a series so popular, there is remarkably little information. The standard work, Krause and Mishler's *Standard Catalog of World Coins*, is based on Buttrey and Hubbard's *Guide Book of Mexican Coins, 1822 to Date* and George Vogt's *Standard Catalog of Mexican Coins, Paper Money and Medals*. While these are excellent works for their day, the efforts of Walter Breen and others in United States numismatics have raised the standard of numismatic scholarship considerably. Where once a mere listing of known varieties sufficed, now we expect every coin to have a sharp, clear photograph, a description of diagnostics and a discussion of estimated rarity. Mike Dunigan and J. B. Parker have stepped in to fill this gap with their new offering, *Resplandores: Cap and Rays 8 Reales of the Republic of Mexico 1823-1897*.

In this book they follow the format used in the series of books issued by DLRC Press (Brian Greer's *Guide to Seated Liberty Dimes*, Al Blythe's *Guide to Seated Liberty Half Dimes*, etc.): each date, mintmark and mintmaster (a feature unknown on U.S. coins) combination receives a listing (seven hundred in all), a photograph and an analysis of striking characteristics, prevalence of chopmarks and rarity. Overdates and other varieties get their own photograph as well. Each mint receives its own chapter, with an introduction discussing its history, who leased it, who ran it and so forth. The introduction at the beginning of the book discusses the history of Mexican *ocho reales* as a whole. Wisely, the authors have eschewed pricing information.

The book is excellently laid out and well produced. The author's style is clear and readable, free of grammatical crudities and

gratuitous editorial remarks (one of Walter Breen's weaknesses). This book Will revolutionize Mexican numismatics. While it does not offer any information not already known to specialists in the field, what previously took decades of expensively acquired experience to learn may now be acquired in an evening's highly pleasurable reading. Despite the stiff price tag, Mexican coin collectors can no more live without this book than a bust half nut do without his battered copy of Overton or the Morgan dollar collector without her *100 Top VAM Varieties*. Those who previously feared to enter the seductive world of Mexican numismatics may now plunge in with confidence; they will be impoverished in wallet but enriched in knowledge.

My criticisms are minor. I would have liked to see the rarity ratings more clearly defined. The authors rate a particular coin as "common", "scarce", "rare" or "excessively rare" without clearly defining the terms. What is dismissed as "common" by a specialist may be prohibitively "rare" to a beginner. While they are forced to eliminate many minor die varieties for reasons of space, I would have liked to see a fuller discussion of the hookneck varieties of 1823-25 (the coins had more variation in these two years than in the rest of the series put together), although they refer the inquisitive to Hubbard and O'Harrow's *Hookneck-ElAguila de Perfil*. The book lacks a grading guide (unnecessary for the experienced, but vital for the beginner).

This book will be a vital guide for years to come. I hope the authors will supplement this work with additional volumes on the other series (4, 2, 1 and 1/2 reales, state and federal coppers, the gold, the decimal series of 1869-1905, War of Independence issues, colonial milled coinage and cobs, Estados Unidos issues, Revolutionary coins and paper). Once they get all this done, then they can start on the weird stuff.

On the Internet? Check out the Numismatic Association of Southern California's page:
<http://home.earthlink.net/~beedon/nasc.htm>
which includes NASC information and links to other numismatic & hobby pages, such as NumisCAT.

A Video called *The Medal Maker*

After viewing this interesting and unusual 30-minute video, *The Medal Maker*, one main thought came to mind. This would be a perfect program for any coin club! Plus, it has a touch of history included.

Even though most of the film is in black-and-white, it is of high quality. Elizabeth Jones adds to the film, with her "just right" narration. Look for candid shots of Adolph A. Weinman, Herman A. McNeal and James E. Fraser while viewing toward the end of the video.

After comparing my notes with the following press release by Mike Craven Productions, it was decided to print a slightly modified version (G. Beedon: Editor).

Long-Lost 1929 Film Recast As A Video Reveals How Laura Gardin Fraser Sculptured Medals

A rare 1929 vintage film showing Laura Gardin Fraser preparing the model for America's most prestigious sculpture award has been reformatted and is being released. It is narrated by sculptor Elizabeth Jones, former Chief Engraver of the United States Mint.

The Medal Maker was once presumed lost. It was located by numismatist, historian and film producer Mike Craven of Hollywood, CA. His firm, Mike Craven Productions has issued the film in video format (VHS).

"The quality of the film was an exhibition of contrasts," said the film maker. "The pictorial shots of Laura Gardin Fraser, the foundry and the actual striking, were of exceptionally high quality."

"On the other hand, being a silent film, the art cards were horrible! They were skewed, contained misspelled words and errors of fact." He elected to eliminate all titles from the 16-minute black-and-white film, while retaining all the original footage of the actual model making, casting and striking.

Craven hired D. Wayne Johnson, the former director of research at Medallic Art Company, to research the film and write a script, Elizabeth Jones selected to narrate the events shown in the film. Craven also contacted foley experts from Paramount Pictures to recreate the sound.

"Elizabeth Jones's narration is spectacular," said the producer. "Dick Johnson gave us a fascinating story of what happened when the film was first shown to the members of National Sculpture Society."

The medal Laura Gardin Fraser is seen modeling in the original 35mm film is the special *Medal of Honor* of the National Sculpture Society. It has been awarded only 35 times since 1929 and is the Society's highest award for sculptural achievement.

Laura Fraser was the first woman sculptor to design an American coin, the Grant Memorial commemorative half dollar of 1922. She did two other coins and collaborated with her husband, James Earle Fraser, for the 1926 Oregon Trail commemorative half dollar. She had also prepared a number of prominent American medals.

The film follows the process through modeling at the artist's studio, casting the metal pattern at an art foundry, and striking the medal at Medallic Art Co. It ends with the presentation of the medal to the first recipient, Daniel Chester French, with four other famous sculptors looking on: James Earl Fraser, Adolph A. Weinman (who made the presentation), Hermon A. MacNeil, and Herbert Adams, all former presidents of the National Sculpture Society.

The 1929 film, *The Medal Maker*, was originally sponsored by the American Numismatic Society; the cost for its filming was underwritten by the Medallic Art Company of New York City.

Copies of the video can be obtained from Mike Craven Productions, P.O. Box 4012, Hollywood, CA 90078; (818) 562-1739, or FAX (818) 562-3368, Web site: www.CravenEntertainment.com, SRP: \$29.95, plus \$3.95 S/H.

NASC HOLDS SUCCESSFUL FOURTH **HOBBY IMPROVEMENT** SEMINAR AT LONG BEACH

Dr. Walt Ostromecki

Flowers, candy and romance traditionally occupy ones "thought agenda" on Valentines Day, but does this hold true for the numismatic hobbyist? For some, yes. And for some others on this past February 14th...[we are roughly speaking about sixty-one devoted and dedicated Southern California numismatic leaders] the answer was definitely no!

Flowers die. Candy gets eaten. Romance endures, but then so do coins and numismatic friendships. Continued devotion and exposure causes them "to tone brilliantly" with time. "Candy, flowers, red hearts, etc. are nice, but I'd rather have copper, silver and gold in coin form any day," commented one numismatically love smitten [no doubt by Cupids arrow...probably at the date?] attendee at NASC's 4th Annual Hobby Improvement Seminar.

Another quipped, "I married the love of my life, but OUR true sweetheart is the coin hobby. Cupid keeps us 'love crazed' about the hobby all through the year. We can think of nothing but the 'amore' of the hobby. It filters through our thoughts all year long. We've found the perfect weekend hide-a-way rendezvous, The Long Beach Hobby Seminar. You say why? Because its the place to discover new ways to expand and promote our hobby love affair."

Guess we as coin collectors and hobbyists look and experience things differently here in the Southern California numismatic scene. Maybe we can blame this effect on El Nino?

The seminar featured two outstanding hobby luminaries and leaders, Mr. Scott Travers and Mr. Timothy Kochuba. These two "numismatic Cupids" focused their energies and expertise on "Ways To Expand the Coin Hobby, and its Collecting Base, the Coin Club." They freely handed out to each seminar participant, numismatic books totaling in excess of \$50 dollars..."the fine

sweet chocolates" each was sure to dine upon in the days that followed!

The first speaker, Scott Travers, vice-president of the ANA and a well-known consumer coin advocate and prolific author of several important hobby books, kicked off the seminar with a look at "ways to bring people into the hobby by re-establishing the focus of our efforts to the grass roots...and fun learning environment...level within the hobby, THE LOCAL COIN CLUB."

He noted, "local hobby politics and cliques have had a devastating and negative influence on not only the promoting of the hobby, but bringing in new collectors and volunteers who will perpetuate coin collecting to others in years to come. The real secret to rejuvenating the hobby from within is not to limit it to a small group of fewer and fewer, but to expand it to embrace and actively involve more and more. Some just don't see this!"

"We cannot all be chiefs. In fact, there is only one chief, THE HOBBY. We 'the Indians' need to re-think, re-shape, and re-focus our volunteer efforts along these lines. We must put aside the old mentality of what's in it for me! We must find ways to attract and bring back former collectors by whatever means. We must develop an unconditional and unified [focus] effort, putting aside our egos, bias, and personal dislikes, to rejuvenate, publicize, and expand our hobby visibility within our local communities. Each of us as hobby and club leaders can begin here. Why? Because 'THE COIN CLUB' is in business for promoting and expanding the fun of collecting! You would be surprised to learn that a vast majority of our local population doesn't know what a numismatist is or that coin clubs exist right in many communities. Who's at fault? We the hobby leaders! And why? Well, each of us will have to do some soul searching on that one!"

The second half of the four-hour seminar was handled by Timothy Kochuba, vice-president of the Ballantine Publishing Group of Random House, Inc., New York. He is a public relations expert. He was responsible for producing such outstanding reference works as the recently published PCGS book, *The Official Guide to Coin Collecting and Counterfeit Detection*.

Mr. Kochuba took the participants through a series of audience interactive slides aimed at helping coin clubs and their leaders

reach out to both collectors and non-collectors in their service area. "Many clubs and, perhaps, the hobby in general have no unified focus on their efforts...[that is, outreach efforts]. The hobby glory days of the past are just that, past. We cannot conduct business our club and hobby business in the same outdated manner. This is not good business. Each club **MUST** have a purpose, focus, aim and clear goal in mind." He was disheartened to learn from several coin club participants that "they had either no such purpose mentioned in their club by-laws and constitution or no club constitution at all! "How can you get more people to know about coins, coin collecting and the fun and education it can provide, if it's not in your **MISSION STATEMENT?**"

Mr. Kochuba then focused on simple ways to bring more collectors into the hobby; ways to win back former collectors; methods to attract young hobbyists; effective new marketing strategies and local publicity tools; Internet outreach programs; etc. We must demand natural leadership. We must change our attitudes and work around squabbles. We must focus on working for the betterment and perpetuation of the hobby at all levels. We cannot continue to conduct business as usual. We must embrace and market new ideas and strategies, especially when it comes to reaching out to others on behalf of the hobby."

"One of the best ways to win new collectors to this hobby is through *THE PERSONAL TOUCH*. Each club must develop a one-on-one mentoring approach. This must become the number one focus or aim of every club and hobbyist. In business we call it total customer satisfaction. What are coin clubs doing to keep in daily, weekly, monthly touch with not only their membership, but community visibility as well? A monthly club newsletter is simply not enough these days. Think of a club as a business. What are we (the club officers and individual members) doing to promote customer satisfaction? No business [coin club] can grow and promote itself without taking into account the customers need!"

Mr. Kochuba also examined was clubs could use the Internet to reach out to potential collectors. He noted, "there is a vast untapped wide base of potential collectors out there. What are coin clubs doing to reach out to them? The day is coming when coin

collecting hobbyists will meet and discuss the hobby via the Internet. Traveling to a monthly coin club meeting location may become a thing of the past. Wouldn't it be great to conduct an interactive meeting over your computer in the quiet comfortable surroundings of your home, instead of traveling on traffic congested highways, in all adverse weather conditions, etc., to a meeting site? We need to start looking at the idea of an Internet coin club now. It has both positive and negative points, but if you want to reach new potential collectors, especially the young, then we must begin for the future now. Businesses are already using this new tool to reach new customers and stay in touch with current ones. " [Mr. Kochuba will be providing a written outline of his presentation materials for publication in the *NASC Quarterly* at a later date.]

[NOTE: This writer is fascinated with the idea of community, regional, state, and national Internet coin club meetings. It adds a whole new dimension or level for coin collecting. Why, just thinking about the potential is eye opening. In addition to "daily coin club meeting possibilities," a consolidated Web site with all sorts of coin hobby information, resource, library, etc., could be developed. A chat room for hobbyists and non-hobbyist seeking questions and answers, with interactive capabilities like photo scan for identification could be included. What about coin grading via the Internet? How about reading (after a subscription price is paid) your favorite numismatic publication: *Coin World*, *Numismatic News*, *Coinage*, etc., over it? The possibilities are endless. Everything for the aspiring to novice coin collector could be at your finger tips on one Internet site. I certainly would enjoy sitting in on a coin club meeting in Alaska or that of a specialty group in Hawaii or Nebraska, etc., especially when there is six feet of snow on the ground; you are ill and not up to going out; don't have transportation; it's 110 degrees outside; etc.! The reasons for establishing an Internet coin club seem endless. Now is the time to begin setting up the foundations for the new wave coin club of the future.]

By the days end a wealth of ideas, suggestions and recommendations had been passed on to all those in attendance. After a lengthy question and answer period, both Travers and

Kochuba charged the club and hobby leaders in attendance with the responsibility to disseminate and implement a focused individual club action plan. "You can unite your focused efforts now because you have learned about many new ideas for expanding the coin hobby. You now have the tools necessary to make an impact on the future of the coin hobby and club membership. The only question remaining is are you willing to change the way you do business and make a difference?"

The NASC wishes to thank the Long Beach Expo promoters and the ANA for their assistance and financial support of the 1998 Hobby Improvement Seminar, as well as, the following local coin clubs and individuals: The Culver City Coin Club, The Los Angeles Coin Club, The Upland Coin Club, The Fontana United Numismatists, The West Valley Coin Club, INS/ICCLA, Long Beach Coin Club, Marlin & Ethel Lenhert, ANA Governor Helen Carmody, Michael Aron Rare Coin Auctions, Paul Borack, Nona G. Moore, Galaxie Designs, *Coin World*, ANA VP Scott Travers, Ballantine Publishing VP Timothy Kochuba, PCGS President David Hall, LBX Public Relations Director Donn Pearlman, and event organizer Dr. Walt Ostromecki.



Timothy Kochuba and Scott Travers with NASC tokens of appreciation for their outstanding presentation at Long Beach. ☺

1799 CENT

Martha Stevenson, NLG



As soon as the bartering system was replaced by gold, silver, and copper coins, man began to find a way to counterfeit them. Since official coins were made with specified weight and metallic content, it didn't take long to find substitute alloys. Sometimes the counterfeited coins were made from the false dies cut by the very mint workers who struck the coins legally during the day! As coinage tools and methods developed and designs became more accessible, counterfeiting became big business.

Probably the first American coin to be counterfeited was the large 1799 cent. It was designed by Robert Scot in 1796, but not authorized for minting until 1799. Mint records indicate that 904,585 pieces were struck. About ten times as many cents were issued in 1799 as in 1795. The 1799 pieces became quite rare while the 1795 coins are still available. The 1799 struck over 1798 is the most valuable of these coins, even more so than the normal 1799 cent, which is, of course, also valuable. Altering the dates was a common practice of that era in order to conserve the time and energy of making a whole new die.

There are various legends circulating regarding the scarcity of the 1799 large cent. One of these theories appeared in the *NUMISMATIST* of January 1918, quoting an article from the *Philadelphia Ledger*: "The rarest cent is that of the series 1799. It is said that the scarcity of this issue is due to the fact that a firm in Salem, Massachusetts engaged in slave trade procured a large quantity of 1799 cents directly from the mint, and after drilling holes in each one, shipped them to Africa where they were given as ornaments to the chiefs in exchange for slaves. The veracity of this story cannot be vouched for, but, if it is true, coin collectors are much more likely to find specimens of this issue in Africa than in the United States."

Another version of that legend has the frigate carrying the 1799 cents sinking in a storm before it reached its destination in Africa. A frigate was a sailing vessel of the 17th and 18th centuries. A

small, fast warship, it carried forty to fifty guns and was lighter in weight than some of the larger ships. It demanded a crew capable of handling the problems of high seas and experienced in steering a ship through treacherous waters, as well as strong enough to take long hours on deck. We can visualize the frigate launching off from Salem, Massachusetts with instructions to deliver the coins to Africa and return with a hold full of slaves.

If we are to believe these interesting stories, then the scarcity of the 1799 large cent is understandable. Of course, a more prosaic explanation could be simply an error in mint records!

Writer's Reference: *Facts and Fiction About Coins* by
Leon Lindheim



Fred Weinberg & Co., Inc.

Fred Weinberg
President

16311 Ventura Blvd., Suite
SafraBank Building
Encino, CA 91436 U.S.A.

(818) 986-3800 (818) 986-3800
(800) 338-6533
FAX (818) 986-2153

BILL PANNIER
Professional Numismatist

U.S. and Foreign Coins
Bought and Sold

FULLERTON COINS

"Since 1961"

123 N. Raymond, Fullerton, CA 92631

(714) 526-5460

Buy Boards, Stamps and Supplies
Gold & Silver Investments

Collections & Estates
Bought & Appraised

Closed Sun and Mon

NASC AWARDS AND INSTALLATION BANQUET

Mary Beedon

Each year the club presents awards as appreciation for contributions to the NASC, *The NASC Quarterly* and the numismatic hobby in general. With the help of these members and member clubs, the NASC continues to be a strong presence in numismatics. This year the annual NASC Awards and Installation Banquet was held before a "packed house" at Coco's Restaurant in Arcadia on the first of February after attendees enjoyed an excellent dinner. Master of Ceremonies Al Baber called everyone to order for the business portion of the meeting.

After guests and past presidents were recognized, the awards were presented. Ethel Lenert conducted this part of the evening. A highlight of the presentations was Leonora and Harold Donald receiving the ANA Presidential Award from governors Helen Carmody and Kay Lenker.

The installation of the new 1998-2000 NASC Officers and Board (see photograph) was handled by the ANA's Director of Conventions, Ruthann Brettell, who flew in from Colorado Springs to do the honors. Jerry Yahalom received his NASC President's Medal from G. Lee Kuntz.

It was a wonderful evening with Al keeping everything moving along smoothly with crisp and humorous repartee. There were door prizes for all. Joyce Kuntz' hard work really paid dividends and those lovely baskets dotting the tables were personally decorated by her.

Outstanding Numismatic Speaker Award: Walter Ostromecki

Member of the Year: Gary Beedon

President's Award for Best Club Newsletter: (1st) Upland Coin Club for "Upland Coin Talk," Ethel Lenhert, editor; (2nd) Bay Cities Coin Club; (3rd) Glendale Coin Club for "Glencoin News."

Karl Brainard Memorial Literary Award: (1st) National Bank Notes From Orange County, Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald; (2nd) Treasury Women: From Sarah to Bette B. Part II, the 20th Century, Dr. Walter Ostromecki; (3rd) Fort Knox and America's Gold, Virginia Hall

George Bennett Memorial Literary Award: Indo-Greek Kings and Coins, Dillon Frost

NASC Quarterly Contributors (10): Dr. Walter Ostromecki, Jr., Jerry Yahalom, Harold Katzman, William Grant, Ethel Lenhert, Marlin Lenhert, Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald, Virginia Hall, Mary Beedon, and Dillon Frost. Each received low mintage copper NASC medal.

Kay Lenker and Helen Carmody present the ANA Presidential Award to Leonora & Harold Donald.



Banquet Chairman Joyce Kuntz conducts the prize drawing!

Walter Ostromecki holds his Speaker of the Year Award, which was presented to him by last year's recipient Thomas Fitzgerald.





Jerry Yahalom selects Gary Beedon as NASC Member of the year.

NASC Installation & Awards Banquet

Your term is over! Jerry Yahalom receives his President's Medal from new NASC President G. Lee Kuntz.



ANA Director of Conventions Ruthann Brettell installs...



G. Lee Kuntz as NASC President.



NASC Officers: Harold Katzman, Walter Ostromecki, Albertus Hoogeveen, Kay Lenker and Leonora Donald (G. Lee Kuntz observes). See inside back cover of *Quarterly* for their titles.



NASC Board: Steve Davis, Angus Bruce, Phil Iversen, Jerry Yahalom and Marlin Lenhert.

JEFFERSON NICKELS: A LOST SERIES

Bill Cregan

About twenty-five years ago, a single choice, un-circulated 1950-D Jefferson nickel commanded \$25.00. I saw it myself back then. Today, this same coin will sell for about \$9.00. That clearly records the plunge in popularity of this key date and the entire Jefferson nickel series.

But it wasn't always this way. Back in the early 1960's, the Jefferson Nickel was a hotly collected coin, until the bottom suddenly fell out. Now in ashes, these coins are the domain of a cluster of collector mavericks, who are leisurely waiting to see them restored to their former glory as popular collector's coins.

To understand the abrupt rise and fall of the Jefferson nickel, let's go back to when it all began. It was introduced into circulation in 1938. Things were tough at the time.

The Great Depression was still in full force. During 1937 and 1938, unemployment and

unproductive factories still plagued the economy, stifling a full recovery. In 1938 the jobless rate stood at about seventeen percent, the highest since 1933. Most Americans were still working without the protection of a minimum wage, which was set at forty cents per hour in 1938.

So the new Jefferson nickel was not perceived as a collector's item, but as necessary money for food, pay phone calls or a cup of java.

Nevertheless, responding to a small but rapidly growing coin collecting fraternity, local dealers acquired a substantial quantity of the new 1938 Jefferson nickels from the three issuing United States Mints. This quantity has been mostly disbursed over the years and choice original rolls of 1938 Jefferson nickels are uncommon.

Jefferson nickels minted from 1939 to 1942 did not receive much collecting

attention at their time of issue. Dates such as the 1939-D and S, and the 1942-D were not saved in large roll quantities. Even extra fine and about uncirculated examples, despite a low catalogue value, were not easy to obtain.

What put the Jefferson nickel back on its collecting "feet" was the introduction of a popularly priced coin album to house a collection, introduced in early 1942 by the Whitman Publishing Company. This album, available at drug stores and hobby stores, would turn coin collecting into a national pastime. It eventually swept the Jefferson nickel along with it, as it did with the Lincoln cent and Buffalo nickel.

But as the Depression hampered the collecting of the Jefferson nickel upon its introduction, the advent of World War II once again put collector's attention on the series on hold, as they served in the armed services overseas or toiled those long overtime hours in defense plants with little spare time.

The impact of the Second World War upon the Jefferson nickel's collecting

popularity struck me when I visited a coin show some years ago and examined an original first edition Jefferson nickel coin album, containing all the coins made from 1938 to 1943.

The date and mintmarks under the openings for the 1943 coins had been penciled in, and there the collection stopped. Perhaps the collection was begun by a collector who was called into the armed services at the peak of the War and never returned. To me, the collection had great historical value, but I could never get around to asking the dealer his price.

Developments during the War affected the Jefferson nickel. Its main metal component, nickel, was needed for the duration, so the coin's alloy was temporarily changed. Nickel was completely eliminated and a new alloy combination of sixty-six percent copper, thirty-five percent copper and nine percent manganese was substituted.

The nickel's mintmark, which was located to the left of Monticello on the reverse, was made larger and placed above its dome. The letter P for the Philadelphia mint was

used for the first time. It indicated the change of alloy and would facilitate its retrieval from circulation upon the War's end.

This temporary alloy was softer and made striking the coin easier. It did, however, produce two flaws. The first was the alloy mix, which often resulted in fouled bonding, which resulted in finished coins with laminated planchets. Second, due to the alloy again, the coins would acquire a dark gray, dirty appearance after about a year in circulation, which sharply distinguishes them from the regular issues.

The softer alloy of the war-time Jefferson nickel caused it to wear much faster than the peacetime coins. Above fine condition, any wartime date deserves collector's analysis, especially after considering how many millions of these coins have been melted down over the intervening years.

Worn out war nickels continued to circulate in abundance until 1964, when they were withdrawn from circulation along with other silver alloy denominations. Long bored with these worn coins, I was suddenly and

amazingly surprised to find an extra fine to about uncirculated bag of these coins for sale at a 1987 large Southern California coin convention. The bag contained a thousand coins that were apparently culled from circulation immediately after the war's end, back in 1945-46. The coins were poured out of the bag and were under the dealer's case. He wanted to sell the coins as a bag only; no individual dates or mints were offered. The bag was priced to sell and sold quickly.

Coin collecting as a popular hobby grew rapidly in the postwar years. Coins in general were at much higher price levels than the years immediately preceding the war. The Jefferson nickel was no exception. Considered a rather dull coin at its inception, collectors and dealers were now hoarding new issues by the roll, filling their Whitman albums and selling their duplicates for a nice profit. By the year 1950, collectors and dealers found the Jefferson nickel surpassing the much older, and rarer, traditional collector coins such as large cents and Bust half dollars in aggregate

value. The best was yet to come.

It was the 1950-D nickel. It was a coin that made many people rich. For some, it was the magic stepping stone that would make them eventually millionaires. This coin was also the catalyst that helped change the coin business from a strictly collector domain to the collector-investor shared industry that it is today.

The 1950-D nickel is the lowest mintage circulation release coin of the entire Jefferson nickel series. Only 2,630,000 coins were produced. It was a low mintage for the time. Several collectors and dealers took advantage of a potential bonanza by hoarding uncirculated coins in tremendous quantities upon their release. They then sat back and waited.

It didn't take long before collectors working on Jefferson nickel sets discovered the 1950-D was a difficult coin to find in circulation. It was reasonably simple to find all dates and mints in circulation, but not the 1950-D. So there were thousands of collectors with sets missing only this coin.

As a result, it slowly began to inch up in value.

Flocks of collectors started buying uncirculated 1950-D nickels from the hoards held by dealers, but there never seemed to be enough coins to go around as the number of Jefferson nickel collectors, particularly girls and boys, continued to increase. By the early 1960s the 1950-D nickel was the most popular coin with novice collectors. Its success story had caused the hoarding of mint bags and rolls of potential rarity for their investment potential. It wasn't long before new issue coin hoarding was a mania.

The early 1960s was the peak of the roll and bag trading craze and the 1950-D led the pack. Dealers opened sumptuous shops with long glass counters with soft, plush chairs where customers could examine the latest brilliant uncirculated rarities made at the mint. San Francisco minted coins were especially popular after the facility closed down temporarily in 1955.

Upon the carpeting behind the glass display counters many dealers rented teletype machines listing the latest roll prices. With the latest ticker

tape prices on the 1950-D and other rarities, dealers were becoming wealthy selling rolls of uncirculated Jefferson nickels to investors for top dollar. Even a common coin like the 1953-D could command \$7 per roll, nice money at the time. The 1950-D sold to investors at about \$1,000 per roll in 1964, very good money for time. I am sure many dealers were able to sell their shops and retire for life at this juncture.

Enthusiasm for the 1950-D nickel also bewitched collectors with modest means. By the early 1960s neighborhood coin shops were as easy to find as laundromats. They were usually equipped with bid boards, where school-age Jefferson nickel collectors waited like cats for the sighting of a 1950-D. The bidding frenzy then began. I personally remember, in the fall of 1963, one collector who won a mediocre uncirculated piece for \$24.50. At age sixteen that was considerable money, especially when you consider that a \$2.50 Liberty gold piece brought the same price at the time.

When the United States

Treasury announced the removal of silver from our circulating coinage in 1964, the roll and bag market was at its peak. This news did not have any noticeable affect, but its next announcement would. All coins issued beginning in 1965 will be of base metal and the mintmarks would be removed. Also, they would be minted in such tremendous quantities that to make a speculative roll market in them would be pointless. These two blows, the loss of silver and mintmarks, toppled the bag and roll market. By late 1964 it was in chaos.

Shrewd dealers and investors who sold before the market peak are wealthy today, either retiring from the business to enter other fields or simply living the life of leisure. The 1950-D nickel, of all things, made this possible. When the roll crash had settled in late 1967, the dealers who survived discovered their business had been altered forever. The investor was there to stay and his speculation in Jefferson nickels, or anything else that came along, like Morgan dollars, would be an integral and exciting part of the coin

business for now on.

Now that speculators have gone on to other coin promotions, we can now look at the Jefferson nickel as a collectible, as a legitimate series with a place in numismatics. That 1950-D that once sold for \$24.50 will now bring only \$6 or so, which reflects our current collector demand. In fact, no date or mintmark in the set is extremely expensive in any grade. That offers an opportunity for the novice collector of even very modest means, to learn what coin collecting is all about. It is the enjoyment derived from patience and the acquired knowledge that is central in building any coin collection.

Let's go back to that notorious 1950-D, still the most popular date in the set. To start a collection of Jeffersons, a good starting point would be to buy this date first. However, collector wise, selectivity is important. Nice uncirculated pieces may not be as common as believed, and circulated pieces raise other questions. Since not many specimens of this date escaped hoarders, how many actually reached circulation? And if so, how

many nice, very fine, extremely fine or so graded coins are around? These are some of the questions the Jefferson nickel collector needs to address when working on his collection. It may be that nice uncirculated or choice circulated Jeffersons may not be as common as presently realized. It's a dilemma that applies to just about any United States coin series.

But the bonus with Jeffersons is some possible unrealized condition scarcities can be purchased very cheaply. This gives the Jefferson collector a rare opportunity.

Since money is no object and the finest specimens in extremely fine or uncirculated grade are the mystique to any great and unforgettable collection, these inexpensive pieces are probably easy to find. Unfortunately, this is not so.

The Jefferson nickel is as true to form as coins that are older, more popular, and much more costly. Even though a coin may catalogue at \$2 in extremely fine grade, it may be difficult to find. And it is not always a matter of retail marketing, meaning

that dealers find it unprofitable and time consuming to sell a \$2 coin. It is because some of the dates in the series are scarce in this nice preservation.

A main drawback to locating choice Jefferson nickels is the way they were struck by all three of the issuing mints. Weak impressions as a result of incorrect mechanical pressure or from worn dies abound, erasing many details, most noticeably in the reverse on the steps of Monticello. There are common design weaknesses on Jefferson's portrait on many dates, giving the coins an unacceptable fuzzy appearance. The Philadelphia Mint is known for this abnormality.

Incorrect alloy mix also created many specimens with a blackish hue, that appeals to some specialists. This hue, however, is undesirable when it comes with a rough, grainy surface that is common to most specimens. When all these common defects are totaled, it is no wonder that choice coins are not so easy to find.

For the Jefferson specialist who dislikes defects, he could choose proof strikings issued annually to collectors

from 1938 to 1942 and from 1950 to today. As a choice proof, the Jefferson nickel is a very beautiful design. It is where its creator, Felix Schlag, displays his artistry in full bloom. It is hard to believe he only earned \$1,000 designing this coin, that others have literally made millions on.

Proof Jefferson nickels are a lightly explored numismatic specialty. The 1938 to 1942 examples were issued in limited quantities. Reportedly, they could be purchased individually or as part of a complete denomination United States proof set. The circumstances surrounding the issuing of these early proofs was never made clear to me. They did not seem to be hoarded by coin dealers or collectors at the time of issue. Beginning in 1950 with the resumption of proof coinage, the Jefferson nickel proof was not available as a single coin, but as part of a complete United States proof set. These sets, and subsequent sets, were hoarded for the silver coins. The Jefferson nickels were mostly ignored when the sets were broken up by dealers and collectors. Proofs of this

vintage may have potential.

When I think of minting varieties, the Jefferson nickel is the unchallenged modern issue. You would have to go back to some dormant Nineteenth Century issue for more specimens to study. One of the most popular varieties is the 1943, 3 over 2 overdate. This coin is a fully legitimate overdate and is bold and impressive. On the early strikes from the overdated dies, it is especially vivid. I wonder what this coin would cost if this series was more popular. So, remember to inspect every 1943 Philadelphia Mint nickel you see.

The Jefferson nickel is now a legitimate member of

numismatics, despite its stormy past. It is a series where you can learn the art of coin collecting at a very inexpensive price, and then apply these skills to a much more costly and frustrating series in the future.

But the Jefferson nickel still has its own charms. It is a hard set to complete once you study it and set the ground rules. My set is all extra fine to about uncirculated. It cost \$40 to complete it. But that negligible sum is paltry to the knowledge I gathered about the coin along the way. The coin has given me deep satisfaction for what it is and is a launching pad into the world of coin collecting. ☺

Tel: (714) 589-6700
Fax: (714) 589-6900
Pager: (818) 451-4545
E-Mail: FRAGNER@AOL.COM

ANCIENT AND MODERN
GOLD AND SILVER COINS
OF THE WORLD

Fragner & Fragner, Ltd.

*** * * COLLECTIONS WANTED * * ***

William J. Fragner

P.O. BOX 81000
RANCHO SANTA MARGARITA, CA 92688

ANA, MSNS, AINA, NCNA
CCPNA, CSNS, FUN, NASC, SIN

GOLDEN STATE COIN SHOW

PATRON PROGRAM

The 1998 GOLDEN STATE COIN SHOW (GSCS) will have its 9th Annual Coin show on September 5-6, 1998 at the Pasadena Convention Center, Pasadena California.

As part of the continuing tradition, the three sponsor organizations (CSNA, NASC, COIN) are asking for your support by joining our PATRON PROGRAM. For Just \$10.00 you can contribute to the educational success of our hobby. In addition you will have the self-satisfaction of knowing you have supported this annual event as a PATRON supporter.

All Patrons will have their name entered into a drawing for a DOS peso gold drawing. Winner need not be present. Patrons will have their names listed in the official program (insertion deadline is August 24, 1998). If you want more than one line, each additional line is \$10.00.

If you can't attend this years convention, just mail in your donation of \$10.00. We will add your name to the HONOR ROLL of PATRON supporters. I will then add a ticket for you for the gold drawing.

Complete the form below and mail your \$10.00 check made out to GSCS, to Harold Katzman, P.O. Box 3382, Tustin, CA 92781-3382.

Harold katzman, Patron Program Chairman

1998 GSCS PATRON PROGRAM



___ YES! I want to be a proud PATRON & support the
9th GSCS.

\$ _____ is enclosed. Please prepare my raffle ticket and
let me know if I win.

I (we) would like my (our) name(s) listed as:

Respond by June 1st for early bird drawing of a Silver Dollar.

CLUB REPORT

Harold Katzman

LIFE BEGINS AT 38

Al Hoogeveen spoke about the \$2 bill at the November meeting of the Downey Numismatists. Did you know that this note is the least used bill in the United States? In December the club enjoyed the holiday season with food, drink and playing COINO. A special Christmas wreath was given away. The winner was Julie Dorman. The club began their 38th year in January with Lynda Richard arranging a surprise program. We will fill you in on the details of this event next time.

ANYONE SEE A VICE-PRESIDENT AROUND?

Randy Briggs presented a program on English coins (Anglo-Hanoverian) during the January meeting of the Fontana United Numismatists. Randy had some very fine examples of these coins on display. Ethel Lenhert installed the new officers: President, Doug McCalmont; Treasurer, Don Conrad; Secretary, Bud Osborne and Directors: Ethel & Marlin Lenhert, Frances McCalmont and Tony Micciche. In February Doug McCalmont took the club on a tour of the U.S. Mints. The club had their annual Super Auction in March.

ANOTHER MERGER?

The November meeting of the Garden Grove Orange Coast Coin Club had Jerry Kleeb speaking on "Paper Money of Mexico." In December a potluck dinner was held followed by bingo. The January meeting featured Les Watson speaking on "Commemorative Documentation." The February meeting

featured Jeff Heath presenting a new program on "Numismatic Books." In March Jeff Stahl introduced another new program on "National Banknotes."

We regretfully report the demise of the Orange County Coin Club. The members voted to merge with GGOCCC since they (OCCC) did not have the volunteers to run OCCC. So, after 50 years, the Orange County Coin Club has passed on. Names are being considered for this thrice merged super club. I hope it will be shorter than Garden Grove Orange Coast Orange County Coin Club (GGOCOCCC). ☺

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

At the November meeting Tom Redmond spoke on "Why Do We Collect Anything?" at the Glendale Coin Club. In December the club provided a buffet for its members followed by several games of COINO. Winners were: Yanna Foquay, Jerry Yahalom, Ed Casaus, Antoinette Aron and Harry Reder. The club extended its highest honor to member #22 by bestowing an honorary life membership to Murray Singer.

In January Deputy Dave Willard gave a talk on security. Dave shared with the membership various ways they can protect themselves and their collectibles. He provided pamphlets for those wanting additional information. February's meeting featured a video on coin grading.

A "GRAND" JURY MEETING

Over \$90.00 was raised at the white elephant sale held at the November meeting of the Hemet Numismatists. All the lots were sold and given to Vice-President Cliff Parr. Cliff needed a pickup to take home the goods which were then donated to Hospice.

The club celebrated the holidays with a feast at the Sizzler in December. During the January meeting, Ormond Colbert, of Hemet Coin and Jewelry, spoke on his experiences while

serving on the Grand Jury. The officers installed at the meeting were: President, Charlie Miller; Vice-President, Bob Marsh; Secretary, Bobbie Miller and Treasurer, Chuck Hoffman. Stu Belenson provided the program for February.

ACTOR RICHARD DYSART GUEST SPEAKER

The December meeting of the Bay Cities Coin Club had Phil Iversen presenting a slide program on "American Colonial Currency." January was their "Gala Luncheon" and installation of officers. Actor Richard Dysart, of LA Law fame, was the special guest speaker. Richard spoke on his 40 years in showbiz. February's meeting was "Show & Tell Night" on the topic of love tokens. Member Mort Shafer will be moving to Seattle, but not before conducting "Tosca" by Puccini at the Casa Italiana Opera Company.

OTHER HOBBIES - WOW !

The November meeting of the Covina Coin Club was "Other Hobby Night." Chuck Ham displayed brass pencil sharpeners; Ethel Lenhert, a large book of 31 superbowl games; Lewis Schwartz, blankets made out of cigarette packages while he was in the navy; Steve Desens, cash cards from Nevada; Helen Desens, key chains; Del Beck, jewel Christmas tree; Peter Kunza, Tonka cars and trucks; Tom Fitzgerald, a gun from the 1880's; Martin Miller, hand made wooden toys; Ron Petite, frogs, and Lloyd Beauschine, photos of coins.

December was "Christmas Party Night." Santa made an appearance. Dice games were played and 40 door prizes were given away. January's program was "Share your Favorite Coin" night.

INSTALLATION NIGHT

The December meeting of the Culver City Coin Club was "Holiday COINO." Winners were Marilyn Ackerling, Lou Block, Frank Kish, Betty Rusa and The Ackerlings. John Sherman won the membership prize, breaking the two-month reign Bert Rusa had on winning that prize.

In January the following officers were installed by Lynda Richard: President, John Forrey; 1st Vice-President, Paul Borack; 2nd Vice-President, John Sherman; Secretary, Paul Borack; Treasurer, Frank Kish; Editor, Marcia King; Board members: Lou Block, Frank Kish, Harry & Risela Stasney and Zeve Ackerling. In February Paul Borack presented a program on "US Postage & Fractional Currency."

CLUB MOVES AFTER 22 YEARS

The December meeting of the Israel Numismatic Society/Israel Coin Club of Los Angeles featured a wonderful catered buffet as the members celebrated the holiday season. Thirty-two members and guests attended. A specially decorated Christmas tree was won by Donna Sims. January's meeting was "Other Hobby Night." January was the last meeting at the First Federal Bank. After 22 years the bank needed the room to install computers to train their staff. February's meeting was held at their new home, The Westside Recreation Center at 141 5. Gardner St.

BAD OLD NAZIS

"SHOW & TELL" was the November program of the Litton Coin Club. In December the club enjoyed a holiday party at the Plum Tree Inn. Everyone received a silver quarter and other goodies as delivered by Santa (Larry Buck). G. Lee Kuntz spoke on "Early American Coppers" at the January meeting. Tom Fitzgerald spoke in February on "Operation Bernhard", the story of the Nazi's counterfeiting British currency during W.W.II.

POTLUCK WHITE ELEPHANT

Martin Miller spoke on "Tokens of Provincial Canada-1867" at the November meeting of the Long Beach Coin Club. In December the club had a potluck dinner followed by a gift exchange. In **addition**, a white elephant sale was held. The club netted over \$80.00. January's meeting featured Mary Yahalom **speaking** on "Commemorabilia."

WOULD YOU BELIEVE THAT LIFE BEGINS AT 70?

The December meeting of the Los Angeles Coin Club had Dr. Thomas Fitzgerald speaking on "Operation Bernhard." The club also had its Annual Christmas Party-Social Mixer. Five games of COINO were played with the following winners: Alan Raisley, Mary Yahalom, Avi Ellis, Sagi Solomon and Jerry Yahalom winning the blackout game and \$13.50.

In January the club viewed the video "ANA Grading Video Part 1." January also marked the beginning two new eras for the club. First, this is the start of the club's 70th year. Second, the club has moved to a new location, The West Wilshire.

DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE DOUBLE YOUR FUN

Thirty-five members and guests attended the Christmas dinner hosted by the San Diego Numismatists Society in December. A large white elephant sale followed dinner. The club made over \$175. January featured the installation of the following officers: 3-year board members Lester Peich and Vernon Reed. Vernon was also the speaker for the evening on "Double Die Lincoln Cents." In February Kay Lenker presented a program on "Money of Early America."

NEW OFFICERS

Israel Merica-Jones spoke on the "Eisenhower Dollar" at the November meeting of the Heartland Coin Club. In December the club had dinner at Lamplighter Village Mobile Home Park. While attendance was down, everyone had a great time. Ten door prizes were given away. A special door prize was awarded to members living over 100 miles away who attended. The winners were Jim and Peggy Parker of Sisters, Oregon. At the January meeting the following officers were elected: President, Jack Hook; 1st Vice-President, Chuck Luce; 2nd Vice-President, Lee Darnell; Secretary, Joyce Darnell; Corresponding Secretary, Virginia Bourke and Treasurer, Jean Luce.

THE INTERNET

Susan Trask spoke on "Civil War Tokens and Store Cards" at the November meeting of the San Bernardino County Coin Club. During the December meeting, members and guests enjoyed a pot luck, after which they viewed displays. Ten members had exhibits with Ann Wisslead winning \$5, Janet Reeves, \$4, Kevin Akin, \$3, Angus Bruce, \$2 and Ethel Lenhert, \$1.

In January Doug McCalmont spoke on "Coins on the Internet." February is Lincoln month which means Dr. Larry Burgess will give another program on Lincoln.

A FREE STEAK DINNER?

A redbook quiz was the November program at before the Santa Barbara Coin Club. In December the club held its annual "Holiday Dinner Party." Members were treated to a steak dinner compliments of the club. Non-members had to pay \$20. It pays to be a member of the Santa Barbara Coin Club.

GOLD, GOLD AND STILL MORE GOLD!

In November at the Verdugo Hills Coin Club, Phil Iversen spoke on his 1996 trip to the Denver ANA Convention. He took the club on a tour of Denver visiting such sites as the Mint, the Capital and the Fire House Museum.

In December Walter Ostromecki installed the following officers: President, Jeff Klemzar; 1st Vice-President, Richard Murachanian; 2nd Vice-President, Earl Fritcher; Treasurer, Bob Fuller; Secretary, Doris Fuller; Editor, Bob Thompson and Directors: Steve Albanese, Maria Murachanian, Jim Barth, Jim Hart, Bob Vick, Irene De Mattel and Rick Gordon.

Twenty-five door prizes were given out with nine of them being GOLD. The gold winners were: Mike Baldwin 5 pesos, Julie Rush and Sandy Houston 2 1/2 pesos, and Don Berry, John Lynn, & Mary Klein, DOS pesos. In January the club viewed the video "The U.S. Mint & Bureau of Printing and Engraving." The one and only "DR. I.Q." (Walter Ostromecki) put on a numismatic quiz at the February meeting.

"PICK"-ING A VICE-PRESIDENT

The West Valley Coin Club had Bill McNatt speak about "Confederate & U.S. Fractional Currency" at the November meeting. Bill is a contributor to the "Pick" catalog. In December the club had a potluck luncheon. Following lunch was several games of COINO. The club installed new officers in January. They are: President, Mark Fenster; 1st Vice-President, open; 2nd Vice-President, John Barnes; Secretary, Eileen Bernstein; and Treasurer, Walter Ostromecki. Governors include: Dillon Frost, Maurice Getz, Harry Reder, Richard Murachanian and Mary Yahalom. Trustees are: Phil Iversen, Harold Donald and Chris Evans. February's program was titled "My Favorite Numismatic Item from my Collection."

TRIP TO ENGLAND

At the December meeting of the Whittier Coin Club Bill Billard spoke about his recent trip to England and the surrounding countries. He exhibited some of the photos he took and memorabilia he collected.

A donation auction raised \$45 for the club. Each member donating an item was entered into a special drawing for an Olympic Token set. The winner was Tina Billard. In January the "Story of the Carson City Mint" was featured as the program. A slide program on "State & Federal Copper of Mexico" was shown in February.

SON INSTALLS MOM

The November meeting of the Upland Coin Club had Phil Iversen present his "Rocky Mountain High" program, about his 1996 trip to the Denver ANA Convention. The club changed its January meeting date to the 5th Saturday since most of the members were in San Jose for the CSNA Convention. Installation of officers was the main event. Past President (UCC) and current Corresponding Secretary of NASC, Harold Katzman installed the following officers to two-year terms: President, Thelma Katzman (Guess who is related to whom?); Vice-President, Dennis Halladay; Secretary, Ethel Lenhert; Treasurer, Marlin Lenhert and Board members: Don & Terry Foster, William Grant, Joyce Kuntz and G. Lee Kuntz. In February the club viewed the OSNA video on California Numismatist Charles G. Colver, which was produced prior to his recent passing away.

NASC'S NEW TEAM OF OFFICERS

Ruthann Butrell, of the ANA, installed the new officers for NASC at the annual banquet. The following officers were installed: President, G. Lee Kuntz; Vice-President, Harold Katzman; Corresponding Secretary, Walter Ostromecki;

Recording Secretary, Albertus Hoogeveen; Treasurer, Kay Lenker; Historian, Leonora Donald, and Directors: Steve Davis, Mike Vanyur, Angus Bruce, Phil Iversen, Marlin Lenhert and Jerry Yahalom.

SIN FOUNDER PASSES AWAY

Just as we are going to press, word came that long time collector and numismatist Jim Betton passed away. He was one of the founders of the Society of International Numismatics (SIN) and active member of the Bay Cities Coin club. Jim was a past president of the Numismatic Association of Southern California. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

NOTE: CHANGE OF ADDRESS

As I will be passing on the NASC Corresponding Secretary duties, I just want to remind all clubs sending me bulletins for my report to address it to:

HAROLD KATZMAN
P.O. BOX 3382
TUSTIN, CA 92781

PLEASE DELETE ANY REFERENCE TO NASC ON THE ENVELOPES AS I WILL HAVE THAT MAIL FORWARDED TO THE NEW NASC CORRESPONDING SECRETARY. ☺

THE U.S. MINT

Of the four minting facilities operated by the United States Mint, only two--Denver, Colorado and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania--create the coins circulated for daily use in commerce. Currently, the two mints produce the Lincoln Cent, the Jefferson Nickel, the Roosevelt Dime, the Washington Quarter, and the Kennedy Half Dollar.

NASC CLUB DIRECTORY

ANCIENT COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES - Meets 2nd Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Coast Federal Bank, 10101 Riverside Drive, Toluca Lake; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 227, Canoga Park, CA 91305.

BAY CITIES COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Santa Monica Public Library, Sixth and Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 943, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF TOKEN COLLECTORS - Meets 3rd Saturday or Sunday of odd-numbered months, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at members' homes and other locations. Mailing Address: P.O. Box 66331, Los Angeles, CA 90066.

CALIFORNIA EXONUMIST SOCIETY (CES) - Meets quarterly at GSCS and CSNA Conventions; All day show in June or July; Mailing Address: 611 Oakwood Way, El Cajon, CA 92021.

CALIFORNIA STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION (CSNA) - Meets twice a year during CSNA Conventions at various locations; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1746, Upland, CA 91785.

COLLECTORS OF THE REALM - Meets 1st Thursday, 8:00 p.m., The Elegant Manor, 3115 W. Adams Blvd., Los Angeles; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 29092, Hollywood, CA 90020.

COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATICS (C.O.I.N.) - Meets annually at Golden State Coin Show, plus three Board meetings a year; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6909, San Diego, CA 921666909.

COVINA COIN CLUB - Meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., Covina Park Recreation Hall, 340 Valencia, Covina; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1746, Upland, CA 91785.

CULVER CITY COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Thursday, 8:00 p.m., Veteran's Memorial Building, Urupan Room, Culver and Overland, Culver City; Mailing Address: Paul Borack, 3125 W. Washington Blvd., Marina del Rey, CA 90292.

DOWNEY NUMISMATISTS - Meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., California Federal Savings & Loan, 821 1 Firestone Blvd., Downey; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 165, Downey, CA 90241.

FONTANA UNITED NUMISMATISTS - Meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., Recreation Room, Ayala Park, 18313 Valley Blvd., Bloomington, CA 92316; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 71, Fontana, CA 92335.

GARDEN GROVE ORANGE COAST COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Community Room, 12860 Euclid (1 block north of Garden Grove Blvd.), Garden Grove; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2335, Huntington Beach, CA 92647.

GLENDALE COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., Glendale Federal Bank, 401 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale; Mailing Address: Greg Burns, 327 W. Delaware Road, Burbank, CA 91504.

HEARTLAND COIN CLUB - Meets 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Bostonia Park Recreation Building, El Cajon; Mailing Address: c/o Dorothy Baber, 611 Oakwood Way, El Cajon, CA 92021-5452.

HEMET NUMISMATISTS - Meets 3rd Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue (Northwest Corner Giard and Florida), Hemet; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3082, Hemet, CA 92546.

ISRAEL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY/ISREAL COIN CLUB OF LOS ANGELES - Meets 3rd Thrusday, 7:30 p.m., Los Angeles West Recreation, 141 S. Gardner Ave., Los Angeles CA 90036; Mailing Address: 432 S. Curson, #7E, Los Angeles, CA 90036

LEISURE WORLD COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; Mailing Address: c/o Richard Precker, 13240 Twin Hills Drive, #44F, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

LERC (LOCKHEED) NUMISMATIC SOCIETY - Coin Auction and Trading Sessions only on 1st and 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Lockheed Recreation Center, 2814 Empire, Burbank; Mailing Address: c/o E. Gagnon, 1328 J. Lee Circle, Glendale, CA 91208.

LITTON COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., 5500 Canoga Avenue, Building 32, Room #3, Woodland Hills; Mailing Address: c/o Wait Wegner, Box 521, Woodland Hills, CA 91365.

LONG BEACH COIN CLUB - Meets 1st Monday, 7:30 p.m., Los Altos United Methodist Church, 5950 East Willow St., Long Beach; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808.

LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB - Meets 1st Thrusday, 7:30 p.m., Los Angeles West Recreation, 141 S. Gardner Ave. Los Angeles CA 90036; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3637, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

NORTH HOLLYWOOD COIN CLUB - Meets 1 st Monday, 7:30 p.m., Bank of America, 5201 Laurel Canyon Blvd., North Hollywood; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 227, Canoga Park, CA 91305.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION (NCNA) - Meets 5 times a year, Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590.

NORTHROP AIRCRAFT DIVISION COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m., Northrop Recreation Clubhouse, on Crenshaw between 120th and Broadway, Hawthorne; Mailing Address: 11260 Overland Ave., #20B, Culver City, CA 90230.

OCEANSIDE CARLSBAD COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., Garrison School, 333 Garrison Ave., Oceanside; Mailing Address: 2307 Dunstan Road, Oceanside, CA 92054.

PICO RIVERA COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Security National Bank, Rosemead Square, Rosemead; Mailing Address: 8555 Marshall Street, Rosemead, CA 91770.

REDLANDS COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Smiley Library, 125 W. Vine St., Redlands; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6909, San Diego, CA 92166.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY COIN CLUB - Meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m. (except November which is 1st Thursday), San Bernardino County Museum, Fisk Auditorium (1-10 & California Street to Museum), Redlands; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 295, Patton, CA 92369.

SANTA ANA COIN CLUB - Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Tustin Senior Center, 200 South "C" Street, Tustin; Mailing Address: c/o Roy [wata, P.O. Box 2449, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

SANTA BARBARA COIN CLUB - Meets 4th Monday (except July and December), 7:30 p.m., MacKenzie Park, Recreation Room, Las Positas Road at McCaw Ave., Santa Barbara; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 6205, Santa Barbara, CA 93160.

SANTA MARIA COIN CLUB - Meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Mussell Senior Center, 510 E. Park Ave., Santa Maria; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456.

SOCIETY FOR INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATICS (SIN) - Meets 2nd Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Santa Monica Public Library, Sixth and Santa Monica, Santa Monica; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 943, Santa Monica, CA 90406.

SOCIETY FOR US COMMEMORATIVE COINS - Meets annually at FUN, CSNS, Long Beach Expos and ANA, Saturday at 9:00 a.m.; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 302, Huntington Beach, CA 92648.

TUSTIN COIN CLUB - Meets 1 st Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Tustin Senior Center, 200 South 'C' Street, Tustin; Mailing Address: c/o Roy lwata, P.O. Box 2449, Seal Beach, CA 90740.

UNCAP INTERNATIONAL - For handicapped numismatists. Write for meeting details: c/o Bob Vick, 2613 Huron Street, Los Angeles, CA 90065.

UPLAND COIN CLUB - Meets 3rd Saturday, 8:00 p.m., Magnolia Recreation Center, 651 W. 15th Street, Upland; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1746, Upland, CA 91785.

VENTURA COUNTY COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Church of Christ, Auxiliary Room, 5401 Telegraph Road, Ventura; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3263, Ventura, CA 93003.

VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Monday, 7:15 p.m., Glendale Federal Savings & Loan, 2350 Honolulu Ave., Montrose; Mailing Address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043.

WEST VALLEY COIN CLUB - Meets 4th Sunday, 2:00 p.m., Glendale Federal Bank, 10324 Balboa Blvd. (at Devonshire), Granada Hills, Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4159, Panorama City, CA 91412.

WHITTIER COIN CLUB - Meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., Parnell Park, Lambert Road and Scott Ave., Whittier, Mailing Address: 15540 E. Lambert Road, Whittier, CA 90605.

UPDATED: 3-25-98



Trust Integrity Financial Stability

*For trust, integrity, and financial stability, please call:
Michael Aron Rare Coin & Auction Company
to discuss the outright sale or consignment
of your numismatic collection*

For a free catalog please call or write to:
Michael Aron Rare Coin and Auction Company
P O Box 4388
San Clemente CA 92674
(714) 489-8570

Fax (714) 489-8233
40

NASC OFFICERS 1998 - 2000

PRESIDENT , G. Lee Kuntz (909) 621-2196	697 Scripps Dr. Claremont, CA 91711-2640
VICE-PRESIDENT , Harold Katzman (714) 838-0861	P.O. Box 3382 Tustin, CA 92681-3382
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY , Walter Ostromecki (818) 342-6304	P.O. Box 4159 Panorama City, CA 91412-4159
RECORDING SECRETARY , Al Hoogeveen (562) 862-6666	P.O. Box 222 Downey, CA 90241-0222
TREASURER Kay Lenker (619) 222-8739	P.O. Box 6909 San Diego, CA 92166-6909
HISTORIAN , Leonora Donald 344-1474	P.O. Box 570-552(818) Tarzana, CA 91357-0552

BOARD

Angus Bruce Steve Davis Don Foster Phil Iversen
Marlin Lenhert Michael Vanyur Jerry Yahalom*

*Immediate Past President

COMMITTEE CHAIRMANSHIPS

ANA REPRESENTATIVE, Kay Lenker
AUCTION, Michael Aron
AWARDS, Ethel Lenhert
AWARDS RECOGNITION EVENT, Harold Katzman
C.O.I.N. REPRESENTATIVE, Sally Marx
EDITOR, Gary Beedon
EDUCATIONAL SEMINAR, Walter Ostromecki
ELECTIONS, Nona Moore
GOLD DRAWING, Marlin Lenhert
GSCS REPRESENTATIVES, Lee Kuntz, & Steve Davis
GRIEVANCES, Tom Fitzgerald
JUNIOR ACTIVITIES, Walter Ostromecki
LEGAL ADVISOR, James Waldorf
MEDALS & BARS, Harold Katzman
PHOTOGRAPHER, Thelma Katzman
NOMINATIONS, Open
POLICY & PROCEDURE, Nona Moore
PUBLICITY, Walter Ostromecki
SERGEANT AT ARMS, Don Foster
VISUAL EDUCATION LIBRARY, Phil Iversen
WAYS & MEANS, Don Foster



Golden State Coin Show

September 5, 6, 1998
Pasadena Center

Bourse Information: (909) 864-7617

Bill Grant
P.O. Box 295
Patton, CA 92369-0295

E-mail: MESARED@aol.com